Grants from TMC

†1106. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that different market committees from the State of Maharashtra have sent 15 proposals to Technology Mission on Cotton for grant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision going to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA): (a) to (c) For the Tenth Five Year Plan 18 projects for Development of Market Yards have already been sanctioned for Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) of Maharashtra. 23 more proposals have been received out of which 3 market yards have already been approved and sanctioned.

Closure of loss making units of NTC

1107. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Textile Corporation has been incurring losses in the operation of its various units during the past few years;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) in view of the high wage component whether it is feasible to continue their operations and incur further losses; and

(d) as an alternative whether Government would consider closing the loss making units and utilize the funds for other textile units for their upgradation?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Primary reasons for losses include excessive labour force, obsolete plant and machinery and shortage of working capital.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) In accordance with the Rehabilitation Schemes approved by the BIFR/Government, 65 unviable mills have been closed, 2 mills have been handed over to the Government of Pondicherry and 52 mills have been identified for revival.

Apparel Park at Bellary

1108. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal for establishment of Apparel Park at Bellary;

(b) if so, the present status thereof; and

(c) the amount proposed to be released for the same?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA): (a) to (c) Government have received a project proposal from State Government of Karnataka for setting up an Apparel Park at Bellary under Apparel Parks for Exports Scheme. However, no further Apparel Park project proposals are being considered pending recast of the existing scheme.

12.00 NOON

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

MoU (2005-06) between the Government of India (Ministry of Defence, Department of Defence Production) and the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Defence, Department of Defence Production) and the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for the year 2005-2006. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-2426/05].

Notification of the Ministry of Home Affairs

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Home